

Chicopee Register

COVID testing relocates to RiverMills Center

Testing has moved from Chicopee Comp. after schools returned to in-person learning this week

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Chicopee’s municipal COVID-19 testing site has relocated, moving from Chicopee Comprehensive High School to the upper level of the RiverMills Center at 5 West Main St.

“We’ve moved the COVID testing site to the Council on Aging because some of the kids came back to school,” said Mayor John Vieau on Jan. 19. “We knew that at some point we would have to move it from Comp. We didn’t want to interfere with their learning.”

Emergency Management Director, Glen Joslyn, and the city’s Office of Safety and Compliance designed the testing operation to be portable, Vieau said. Testing will occur next week from 8 a.m. until noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

“I will let people know that it is a very professional



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI
The RiverMills Center, Chicopee’s senior center, on West Main Street is operating as the city’s official COVID-19 testing site.

program that we’ve created,” Vieau said. “These are our EMTs and nurses. I couldn’t be more proud of the fact that we’re able to provide that extra testing here in the city of Chicopee.”

On Jan. 19, Vieau shared several key statistics about the

current COVID-19 caseload. “The City of Chicopee, right now, has 561 open COVID cases. We’ve had, God rest their souls, 23 deaths to date, and we’ve had 2,176 [residents] recover,” said Vieau.

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Mayor requests raises for elected officials

Residents and one city councilor criticized the timing of the request

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Chicopee Mayor John Vieau caused a stir prior to Tuesday evening’s city council meeting when he asked for a raise.

Vieau requested a \$65,144 appropriation that would increase the salaries for more than a dozen elected officials, including himself.

“The elected officials in our city have not seen salary adjustments in nearly 13 years,” Vieau said during his Jan. 19 weekly mayor’s briefing. “Being the second largest city in western Mass., with over a \$200 million budget, I felt that there was a need to take a look at the fact that our elected officials have not had salary adjustments in this long of a time.”

After a lengthy dialogue, the council motioned the item to the Ordinance Committee for a future public hearing. The proposed salaries are the result of a study completed by the city’s Human Resources Department, independent of the mayor’s office.

As outlined in his request,

Vieau, who is paid approximately \$85,000 annually, is asking for a \$18,287 pay increase per six months for the Office of Mayor, or an annual salary increase of more than \$36,000.

The positions of city treasurer, collector, city clerk and assessor would each receive annual pay increases, ranging from approximately \$12,000 to \$19,000. The city council president would receive a \$1,000 annual raise, and the remaining 13 city councilors would split an additional \$12,000 between them each year.

“Seeing that many department heads, ranked first responders, principals [and] vice principals make substantially more than the Mayor of the City of Chicopee was concerning,” said Vieau. “I had two choices when I received this study: I could take it and say ‘Thank you for your hard work,’ and put it on a shelf and leave it there, but I chose to take it forward because I think it’s the right thing to do.”

Numerous residents balked at the idea during the public speaking segment of the council meeting. ChicopeeTV’s live Facebook stream of the meeting garnered more than 300 comments – the vast

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Library’s Kids Room evolving during pandemic



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI
[L to R] Chicopee Public Library employees Erin Daly, Anne Gancarz, Brent Tenerowicz and Corrina Stokes pose for a picture inside the Kids Room.

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Public Library’s Kids Room has made great strides during the COVID-19 pandemic. From implementing new virtual programming to crafting a more inclusive curriculum, Kids Rooms staffers have been hard at work.

“We’re still here. Call us, we’re ready for whatever. We’re not going anywhere,” said Youth Services Coordinator Erin Daly. “Even when we can’t have big programs, people need materials... and our online resources. People need us, and we’re here for them.”

Even while the facility on Front Street remains closed to the public, library employees work inside the building each day and are preparing it for the eventual return of patrons. Daly listed several of the tasks that she and her colleagues have undertaken in recent months.

“We have been taking our burrowing time to physically rearrange some stuff in our room,” Daly said. “Then also, here in the Kids Room, we’ve been learning a lot about anti-racism. We’re doing a curriculum called Project Ready, and that has been teaching us

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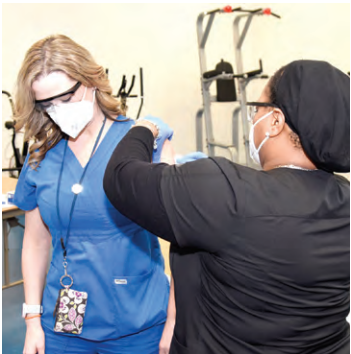


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B&G Club receives donation of tablets, \$1,500 from Charter Spectrum



On Jan. 15, the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee received a donation of 30 tablets and \$1,500 courtesy of Charter Spectrum.

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – The value of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee was recognized by Charter Spectrum on Jan. 15, when the organization donated 30 tablets and \$1,500 to the club.

“Spectrum has been a supporter of the club for years,” said Lynn Morrisette, the club’s marketing and development director. “They have sponsored our annual Thanksgiving turkey dinner and approached us this year to make this donation, as they see us working hard to provide programs and services to our club families.”

The tablets that the club received last Friday will be instrumental in ensuring that all club members have access to a versatile slate of club programming that has been revamped over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$1,500 donation will be used to support remote learning and, more specifically, will be spent on the acquisition of individual supplies and materials such as headphones.

Numerous elected officials attended last Friday’s ceremony, held outside of the facility on Meadow Street. State Rep. Joseph Wagner of the 8th Hampden District said the club is a worthy recipient of the resources and funding it receives.

“The Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee has provided invaluable services to our community’s youth, with steadfast support from the Massachusetts Legislature,” Wagner said. “I thank Spectrum for recognizing these efforts, and partnering to help ensure the Club’s technological needs are met in this critical time of need.”

Headquartered in Stamford, Conn., Charter Spectrum was founded in 1999 and has established a charitable presence



Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee Executive Director Jason Reed speaks during a check presentation held outside of the facility last Friday.

throughout New England over the past two decades.

Camille Joseph, group vice president of state government affairs for Charter Communications, explained the importance of making donations, such as the one that the Chicopee club received on Jan. 15.

“Spectrum is proud to lend support to organizations like the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee and the important work they do in communities,” Joseph said. “Together, we’re building stronger communities where our customers and employees live and work across America.”

Chicopee Mayor, John Vieau, was also in attendance during last week’s ceremony. Vieau is a former club member and



[L to R] State Rep. Joseph Wagner and Chicopee Mayor John Vieau look on as John Maher, Director of Government Affairs for Charter Communications, presents the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee with a \$1,500 check.



On Jan. 15, State Rep. Joseph Wagner reaffirmed his support for the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee.

club staffer and said his affinity for the facility has not diminished over the years.

“As a club alumnus, I am very proud to see Spectrum provide technology to those who will benefit most from it. From a social standpoint, this helps level the playing field,” said Vieau.

Jason Reed, Executive Director of the Club, praised Spectrum for its donation. He said he considers the company to be an integral partner and a primary reason why the club continues to succeed.

“The Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee is able to thrive, in part, because of the strong community partners we have,” Reed said. “Spectrum has been a long-time supporter of our organization, and the members we serve. Their continued investment, this year more than ever, will



Chicopee Mayor John Vieau knows the value of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee; he both attended as a club member and worked in the facility as a young adult.

enable us to continue delivering on our mission.”

Morrisette took a moment to thank the municipal and state officials who make ample time for the club each year. Without their support, the facility would be a shell of its current self, he said.

“We appreciate the support that the entire Chicopee delegation provides to the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee. Majority Leader Wagner is an encouraging voice for the Club as we continue to grow and expand to help our community. By standing out and recognizing community support, he confirms the quality programming and resources the Club brings to many,” said Morrisette.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer, who can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

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Zachary Bunyan named to SNHU Dean’s List

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Zachary Bunyan of Chicopee has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s fall 2020 Dean’s List. Eligibility for the Dean’s List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average of 3.5-3.699 and earn 12 credits for the semester.

Macy Carleton named to Siena College Dean’s List

LOUDONVILLE, N.Y. – Macy Carleton of Chicopee has been named to the Siena College Dean’s List for the Fall 2020 semester.

To be named to the Dean’s List, a student’s grade point average for the semester must be between 3.5 and 3.89.

Send your stories and photos to elinsett@turley.com

Garvey reappointed as associate city solicitor, legal counsel

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – A feel-good moment occurred during the Jan. 19 meeting of the Chicopee City Council when David Garvey was recognized for his decades-long service to the city and was unanimously reappointed as associate city solicitor and city council legal counsel.

Garvey, an attorney who lives and practices in East Longmeadow, has worked in Chicopee on a part-time basis for several decades and will continue to do so.

Before approving his reappointment, a flood of councilors reflected on Garvey’s contributions. Councilor-at-Large

Frank Laflamme said he considers Garvey to be an invaluable resource and an outstanding employee.

“I’ll rely on our attorney for many things, but I have to give him credit for other things. I call him on nights, weekends; a lot of us do,” said Laflamme. “Whatever it is, he tries to help. When you have a constituent calling you, you really want that answer, and he’s there for me. I know he is for everybody else too.”

Ward 8 Councilor Gary Labrie acknowledged that he couldn’t picture anyone in the position other than Garvey and considered his reappointment a “no-brainer.”

Councilor-at-Large James Tillitson, the most tenured member of City Council,

has served beside Garvey for more years than he could count; he thanked Garvey for what he’s brought to the table.

“I’m just glad that he’s willing to put up with us,” joked Tillitson. “He’s been very helpful to all of us. He’s available, he’s knowledgeable; I figure he’s losing money by not going out and doing private work, but we’re lucky to have him. I don’t question his reappointment – it’s almost automatic.”

City Council President Shane Brooks expressed his gratitude to Garvey for helping guide him through his first year at the council helm. Brooks noted that his working relationship with Garvey dates back nearly two decades.

“I appreciate that, and appreciate

your wife and kids’ willingness to share you with us on nights and weekends and a variety of times where you would probably rather be doing other things,” said Brooks.

Laflamme said Chicopee is quite fortunate to have Garvey.

“It’s very hard to get an attorney to work nights, as we have in the city, but [Garvey] also works on all of our subcommittees during the week,” said Laflamme. “It’s not just this meeting he comes to. He also goes to City Hall and works in the law department once a week. It’s a tough thing to find someone to be able to all three on behalf of our City Council.”

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

Winter clothing giveaway at Wisniowski Park set for Jan. 30

By Elise Linscott
elinscott@turley.com

CHICOPEE – Later this month, the parishioners of Chicopee’s Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church will reach out to city residents by partnering with Lorraine’s Soup Kitchen and Pantry to “share a little winter warmth” during a giveaway event, organizers said.

On Saturday, Jan. 30, at 1 p.m., volunteers from both organizations will distribute clothing and other household items to Chicopee residents at Wisniowski Park. Items will include socks, winter gloves and hats, toiletries and non-perishable food items.

“Serving the hungry and disadvantaged is a need shared by both organizations,” said David Gilrein, a member of the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

The food items and toiletries have been provided by Lorraine’s, according to Qualina Lewis, operations manager. The toiletries have been collected through the generosity of a Chicopee Comprehensive High School donation drive, Lewis said.

Church members Gilrein and Mark Paul said clothing items from the giveaway were purchased through parishioners’ donations.

Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church has been a member of the community since 1921, Gilrein said. Lorraine’s Pantry and Soup Kitchen traces its beginnings to 1980 when it was founded.

When asked why the two organizations are choosing to give back during this time, Gilrein and Paul said the effort is simply an extension of an earlier initiative where church members, on occasion, help cook meals at Lorraine’s, leading the two groups to collaborate again for the common good of Chicopee residents.

Gilrein added that with all the tumult and discord experienced today, “perhaps we can find peace and solace in as small an action as giving back to the community, in whatever means we’re able to.”

“We can only manage our own actions measure by measure and hope it takes hold,” Gilrein said. “That is why we give – that is why we strive to take care of one another.”

RiverMills Center launches tablet lending program

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging has launched a tablet lending program for Chicopee seniors ages 55 and older who have internet access, but do not have an updated device to get on the internet successfully.

These tablets can be used to get online, play games, or join Zoom pro-

gramming. This program will allow seniors to sign out a device for up to three weeks at a time. The tablets will also have charging and typing accessories, as well as a basic user guide.

Anyone interested in borrowing a tablet can contact Program Technician Jona Ruiz at (413) 534-3698 ext.104.

Nathaniel Whitehead of Chicopee presents at Lasell University Symposium

NEWTON, Mass. – Nathaniel Whitehead, a Lasell University student from Chicopee, presented at the University’s Fall Career Readiness Symposium in December.

Whitehead contributed to a virtual sharing of student art created during the fall 2020 semester. Students were challenged to visually communicate a core personal belief using three words or less, combined with elements and principles of design.

The December 2020 event showcased the work of Whitehead and more than 150 other students in a dynamic digital format, a triumph for flexible teaching and learning amid COVID-19. The December 2020 event was reimagined to celebrate and showcase the ties between career preparedness and Con-

nected Learning, thanks to a three-year grant from the Davis Educational Foundation.

All Symposium presentations focused on four of the National Association of Colleges and Employers’ (NACE) career-readiness competencies: Global and Intercultural Fluency, Professional and Work Ethic, Leadership, and Career Management.

“The Fall Career Readiness Symposium showcased student work and experiences, especially ways in which students have applied Connected Learning to develop their careers through internships,” said Provost Eric Turner. “The event highlighted competencies in leadership and global/intercultural fluency with an emphasis on ways our students lead and serve by example.”

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea

5. 2014 Winter Olympics host

10. Soft fabric

12. Covered in flowers

14. Works at a college or university

16. Keeps us cool

18. Corpuscule count (abbr.)

19. Similar

20. Birthplace of Muhammad

22. They ____

23. Preamble to a book

25. Southern China people

26. Hair product

27. The woman

28. Partner to cheese

30. One point north of due east

31. Round Dutch cheese

33. Be in awe of

35. Christmas song

37. Emits coherent radiation

38. Something that is comparable to another

40. Monetary unit

41. The cutting part of a drill

42. Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects

44. Touch lightly

45. Toyota SUV

48. ____ and Andy, TV show

50. Made less dangerous

52. Assets under management (abbr.)

53. Nostrils

55. Moved quickly

56. Thai isthmus

57. TV personality Roker

58. Honors anew

63. Rags

65. One who obtains pleasure from inflicting pain or others

66. Marketplaces

67. Dark brown or black

CLUES DOWN

1. Nowhere to be found (abbr.)

2. Not new

3. Brew

4. Stain with mud

5. Chief or leader

6. Luke Skywalker's mentor ____-Wan

7. Type of sauce

8. Sharpens

9. Priestess loved by Zeus

10. Jean Henri ____, French entomologist

11. Regulates supply of fuel

13. Disturbing and horrifying

15. Equal (prefix)

17. Hosts film festival

18. Tattered piece of clothing

21. Rich desserts

23. Unique motor (abbr.)

24. Disfigure

27. Chemical substance

29. Slang for famous person

32. Department of Labor

34. The A-team rode around in one

35. Beach cabin

36. Living things

39. Gun (slang)

40. Disconsolate

43. Stroke gently

44. Actress Richards

46. "Cletus Hogg" actor

47. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

49. Brazilian mountain range

51. Upset

54. One with supernatural insight

59. Insecticide

60. Taxi

61. "Much ____ about nothing"

62. Cannister

64. Popular clothing retailer

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GUEST COLUMN

History Matters

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize and was created to highlight books that show children that their past is prelude to their future.

Historic events from Jan. 16 to Jan. 31

By John Grimaldi and David Bruce Smith
Guest columnists

Benjamin Franklin, the paternal polymath of Revolutionary America, was born Jan. 17, 1706, and died 84 years later. His formal education ended at 10, but Franklin taught himself to read and write; subsequently, he matured into an expert, adolescent essayist, producing pieces, pseudonymously, as "Silence Dogood."

Eventually, he authored the bestselling Poor Richard's Almanack—a compendium of poems, calendar, and recipes; trivia, humor, practical advice; weather predictions, astrological information and pithy proverbs.

And his later achievements as a printer, publisher, author, inventor, scientist, and diplomat, mutated the world.

Franklin's triumphs were variegated, and the scope of his nimble masterminding of the Franklin Stove, bifocals, electricity and swim fins was unprecedented. He was also America's first Postmaster General, and founder of the University of Pennsylvania.

Most important: Franklin was a Founding Father. According to History.com, he was the only Founding Father "to have signed all four of the key documents establishing the U.S.: The Declaration of Independence (1776), the Treaty of Alliance with France (1778), the Treaty of Paris establishing peace with Great Britain (1783) and the U.S. Constitution (1787)."

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends "The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin."

Elizabeth Blackwell

Apparently, it was a "practical joke" when the all-male student body at Geneva Medical College, now State University of New York, voted to accept Elizabeth Blackwell as a student in 1847. Two years later, on Jan. 23, 1849, she graduated at the top of her class; at commencement, the school's dean acknowledged her achievement in a rather cynical manner and concluded his remarks by declaring his hope that Dr. Blackwell would be the last woman to be admitted to the college.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, now The New England Journal of Medicine, called her achievement "a farce."

Blackwell completed her graduate studies in London; in 1851, she returned to the U.S., but she was shunned, and barred, from practicing in hospitals. Undaunted, she opened an office in New York City's tenement district; six years later, she set up The New York Infirmary for Women and Children, with her sister Emily, also a doctor, and a third female physician.

For more information, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends "Elizabeth Blackwell: First Woman M.D." by Nancy Kline.

Nellie Bly

Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days," was published in 1872, but it is still popular. His hero, Phileas T. Fogg, managed to accomplish the feat.

Because the book was a best seller in America and abroad, the editors of the New York World decided to challenge their paper's star reporter, Nellie Bly, to circumnavigate the globe in under 80 days. The intrepid newspaperwoman did not hesitate. She departed New York City, heading east, and returned 72 days, six hours, 11 minutes, and 14 seconds later, on Jan. 25, 1890.

See **HISTORY** page 6

GUEST COLUMN

Midwinter garden musings

It was a lot of fun to get back in the groove garden-wise this week. No, my hands weren't in the dirt, but I was definitely dreaming and scheming about the upcoming season, and reflecting on gardens past. Here are some musings that might be of interest to you.

One can presume that the resurgence in gardening we experienced last spring has continued into the new year. Because of unprecedented increases in ordering, two of my favorite mail order seed companies have limited days that you can place online orders and are stating that it will take anywhere from 10 days to six weeks for shipment. So I guess I would advise that if you haven't placed your orders yet, it might be a good idea to do so.

On a sad note, I discovered that one of my favorite companies for flower seed, Stokes Seed, has discontinued flower seed altogether and is catering to commercial growers for its vegetable seed. Good thing I saved an outdated catalog for all of its valuable cultural information. It was here that I learned that cleome seeds like alternating temperatures to germinate well, to the tune of 85 degrees by day and 65 degrees by night! Or that salvia seed needs light to germinate; don't cover these seeds, just push them into the soil surface.

One thing that always appealed to me about this company was the number of varieties that it offered for each flower type. In my old catalog, I counted no less than 22 kinds of petunias in dozens of colors choices. It will take a bit of research to find a replacement for this company but I am guessing there is one or more out there.

The hyacinth bulbs that sat in my 50-degree mudroom since October sometime were put in forcing glasses a little over a week ago, and already have roots that stretch inches into the water. It has been an ongoing joke in my house that if you stood there long enough you could watch them grow. Top growth has started, ever so slightly. I cannot wait for the blooms to perfume my house! Did you ever



Roberta McQuaid
Columnist

get "itchy" after handling hyacinth bulbs? I do, and it is a common reaction for many people. The weird thing is, my hands rarely itch, but it I happen to touch my face or my neck with a hand that touched a hyacinth bulb I had better wash up and quickly!

The rosemary plant that I potted up before the first hard frost is doing great. It gets late morning sun and sits in a comfortable 50-degree location in-

doors. Old houses are great in that respect; they offer lots of little microclimates for our gardening pass-time. I water it as needed, typically every five days or so. It hasn't flowered, but should soon. Long nights initiate the flowering response. This year it grew so big that I could barely lift it on my own. It may be a good idea to think about taking some cuttings this spring and retiring the old girl. We'll see.

The best cuttings are those taken with a little new growth. Find where the tip of the stem bends on its own and that is where you should take your cutting. Keeping a large rosemary on board is reminiscent of my teenage years when my parents would cover and uncover the two large specimens we'd overwinter on our unheated porch. We were successful at it for many years in a row.

As I look back I think it is pretty neat that my parents cared enough about my blossoming career to go through the hassle of putting blankets on rosemary plants every night!

On that note, I hope that you too are able to find your groove this week, gardening or elsewhere.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



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COVID TESTING from page 1

Vieau urged residents to be patient, as the “vaccines have been slow to come.”

Vieau noted that the city’s first responders were recently vaccinated and said he feels they deserved the opportunity to receive it.

“I can tell you that the front-liners were first, and rightfully so, because they’ve been burdened with a monumental task; dealing with people who have COVID-19,” said Vieau.

Talks are ongoing regarding potential mass vaccination sites in western Massachusetts. Vieau does not expect Chicopee to host a site, as the logistics would be too difficult. Instead, he said the Big E in West Springfield and the Eastfield Mall in Springfield could be chosen.

Schools resume in-person learning; staff still furloughed

On Tuesday, limited in-person classes resumed in Chicopee public schools after being fully remote since Nov. 18. Vieau voiced optimism that furloughed school district employees will soon re-

turn to work.

“To be clear, the reason for furloughs isn’t because we can’t afford to pay people,” said Vieau. “The reason for furloughs is simply because populations in our 15 schools are reduced down to about 10% or less, and to have custodians and the food services staff really having not much to do, the right thing to do and responsible thing to do would be to furlough them.”

During the first academic semester, Vieau noted that food service workers were responsible for the production of up to 15,000 meals per week. While the city could pay their salaries, Vieau didn’t feel that would be the proper decision given the limited in person attendance.

“The right thing to do was to furlough those employees. It wasn’t because of any other reason than you have to do what’s right and be fiscally responsible,” said Vieau. “As kids start coming back to school, we’re hopeful that they’ll come back to work. That’s the goal.”

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

Mayor John Vieau made waves prior to Tuesday evening’s meeting of the City Council by requesting that numerous elected officials, including the Mayor, receive pay increases. The item was motioned to an Ordinance Committee for a Public Hearing.

MAYOR REQUESTS from page 1

majority of which were critical of the proposal.

The majority of City Council, however, was receptive to Vieau’s order. Acknowledging that a pandemic is ongoing, Councilor-at-Large James Tillitson emphasized the importance of initiating the process now.

“There’s no guarantee that it has to be done immediately,” said Tillitson. “This idea that it should be [a] ‘no’ and we can’t even study or look at it is absurd. There’s never a good time to pay people; you have to look at it and make a decision. It takes more courage to do that than to say no.”

Ward 1 Councilor Joel McAuliffe was the only representative to vote against sending the item to the Ordinance Committee for a public hearing. McAuliffe urged his colleagues to vote down the proposal outright.

“My reasoning is quite simple; I cannot, in good conscience, vote to raise elected officials’ salaries in the middle of a pandemic while we furlough employees on the municipal level, and while many of our other residents are out of work and struggling to get by,” said McAuliffe, who stated his belief that the salaries should be raised at a more appropriate time.

Despite McAuliffe’s pleas, numerous councilors expressed a desire for the item to be motioned to the Ordinance Committee for a more thorough discussion. Ward 7 Councilor William Courchesne was among them.

“You can do your own research and realize how poorly [Chicopee] has taken care of the position of mayor. This

is something that needs to be reviewed; it should go to committee. A committee gives the public a chance to have their say. Here’s a chance for everybody to get together and do it together,” said Courchesne.

Councilor-at-Large Jerry Roy questioned the “knee-jerk” reactions to the order, and Ward 9 Councilor Stan Walczak offered evidence in favor of raising the mayor’s salary.

“I consider the mayor to be like the CEO of a big company. He’s got a \$204 million budget. He has thousands of employees working under his authorization,” said Walczak, adding that the City Auditor Sharyn Riley reported that more 350 Chicopee residents earn more than the Mayor.

Fred Krampits, Ward 5 councilor, recalled the process of raising the mayor’s salary back in 2008 – one he partook in as council member.

“It was excruciating to go through bumping the mayor’s salary from \$65,000 to \$85,000 and raising [salaries]. Unfortunately, when you let that kind of time pass, it becomes this big jump in pay,” said Krampits.

When the conversation concluded, the item was sent to the Ordinance Committee. McAuliffe felt as though a mistake was made.

“It does not sit right with me, and I do not believe that it sits right with the residents of Chicopee. While I believe that the order is well intended, I believe it sends a terrible message to our residents and our employees,” said McAuliffe.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

LIBRARY from page 1

a lot about how we can promote books and materials by different creators and Black and indigenous people of color.”

From books and movies to a myriad of online resources, the library has plenty to offer residents of all ages. For children, Daly has scheduled an exciting slate of virtual activities for next month, including story time every other week.

“We have plans to do a ‘blind-date bundle’ for the first half of the month, where we’ll have random staff pick books and mystery crafts. So people can request one of those and just tell us what age their child is, and we’ll gear it towards them,” said Daly.

From Feb. 12-26, young patrons are welcome to participate in a New Year craft, during which they can construct a “New Year Ox,” celebrating the start of the Chinese New Year on Feb. 12. A movie night is also in the works for next month, when the library will offer families two movies, popcorn and a puzzle page.

Although patrons can’t enter the library, they can retrieve materials from the curbside pick-up station, located outside the building. Daly encouraged all residents to make use of the service, which has been keeping library staff busy.

“Curbside pickup remains very productive,” she said. “We’re checking out a whole ton of materials, so we’re here; everyone should know it. Definitely call us for that. And then, we’re still doing a lot of take-out crafts.”

By all accounts, library staffers have done a tremendous job of assisting patrons from a distance. Virtual computer appointments and the genealogy program have both survived the pandemic, thanks to the dedication of the team in place.

“Everyone here is doing such a good job. I’m super impressed. I am so



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

[L to R] Chicopee Public Library employees Erin Daly, Anne Gancarz, Erin Daly, youth services coordinator at the Chicopee Public Library, has scheduled a variety of virtual activities for young patrons next month.

proud of my coworkers for continuing to do awesome [work] even during hard times,” said Daly.

It’s unclear when the library will reopen its doors to the public, but with vaccines beginning to circulate, there is reason to be optimistic that the development will occur sometime this year.

Daly isn’t holding her breath, but did reveal her excitement, and said she looks forward to eventually reuniting with local children and teens in the Kids Room.

“We’re excited for when that happens, but it’s going to be a while, so we’re not particularly focused on it,” said Daly. “It’s going to be pretty fun because we’ve made some great changes in the building. I think everything will be different, but we’ll just be so happy to see everybody.”

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

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‘Stop Smoking & Start Living’ Zoom series

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging will offer the Zoom Series “Stop Smoking & Start Living” Saturday, Jan. 16 and 23 at 10 a.m.

Are you tired of smoking and having cigarettes control your life? If you said ‘yes’ and you’re finally ready to be a non-smoker, then Robin Davis will help you stop smoking forever for a healthier life!

This series is \$25 and participants must register in advance by calling (413) 534-3698. Payment must be made before the first session by dropping or mailing off check or cash to RiverMills Center. Checks may be made out to Robin Davis. Participants will receive an email with the Zoom link upon registration.

Zoom Meditation with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Meditation with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 12 p.m.

Are you feeling stressed? Do you want to learn how to relax? Join us for Meditation on Zoom. This class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT. This is an online class. The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

Gentle exercise with Ryan via Zoom

CHICOPEE- The Council on Aging offers “Gentle Exercise with Ryan” Via Zoom, Mondays and Fridays at 12 p.m.

This class focuses on functional movement & fun. This is an online class. Join Ryan every Monday and Friday at 12 p.m. The Zoom link is shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please contact RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be emailed to you. Please save the Zoom link as that is the link you will use each class.

Elder Law Attorney Zoom workshop

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging will offer an Elder Law Attorney Zoom workshop on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 11 a.m.

Join Jeremy F. Edwards, JD, MBA, of Sites & Edwards, PC for a Zoom workshop to discuss the basics of estate planning. The presentation will cover wills, health care proxies, durable power of attorney forms, beneficiary designations, and revocable trusts.

This Zoom link will be available on Facebook or by calling (413) 534-3698. Registration is not necessary, but is appreciated. If you call to register, you will be asked to provide email and phone number to have the Zoom link sent to you and to receive a reminder call of the workshop.

Zoom Tai Chi with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Tai Chi with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

Experience the many slow and gentle benefits of Tai Chi Fit/Qigong. The class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT, Certified in Tai Chi/Qigong. This is an online class.

The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

Tuesday yoga at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging will be offering Zoom Yoga on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

Caitlin Lavin, Certified Yoga Instructor, will be leading classes. These classes are free and the Zoom links are available on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page or by calling (413) 534-3698.

United Way of Pioneer Valley celebrates 100th anniversary

SPRINGFIELD – On Jan. 10, United Way of Pioneer Valley reached its hundredth anniversary. Since the start of its campaign on Jan. 10, 1921, the organization has helped hundreds of thousands of people to get out of poverty – and stay out – through food and utility assistance, financial coaching, youth programs, and assisting with disaster relief. In total, the United Way of Pioneer Valley has invested over \$193 million in the community since 1921.

Originally known as the Springfield Community Chest, United Way of Pioneer Valley took on its current name in 1972, while maintaining the same scope of work. UWPV now serves all of Hampden County, Granby, and South Hadley, with the exact same goal as its flyers from 1921: relieving and preventing the distress caused by financial hardship.

“All of us at the United Way of Pioneer Valley are excited about the opportunity to honor our past as we shape our future, with our new community investment programs. We ask everyone to be on the look-out for events and activities honoring our hundredth anniversary in the weeks and months ahead”, said Paul Mina, president and CEO of United Way of Pioneer Valley.

About United Way of Pioneer Valley

United Way of Pioneer Valley mobilizes people and resources to strengthen communities. UWPV targets the community’s most pressing needs and focus resources, community partnerships, and the energy of volunteers to create measurable results.

HISTORY from page 4

Nellie Bly was not her real name; she was born Elizabeth Cochrane, but in those days, it was considered improper for a woman to write under her own moniker. She changed it to “Nellie Bly” when she became a journalist.

According to the Library of Congress, “No stranger to fame, the daring Miss Bly had already made a name for herself by exposing the deplorable conditions of an insane asylum on New York’s Blackwell’s Island. Bly researched the story by feigning insanity and having herself committed for 10 days. Her exposé on the asylum and later reports on slum life brought about needed reforms and helped pave the way for women in journalism.”

For more information, *The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Bly’s memoir: “Undercover: Reporting for The New York World 1887 – 1894.”*

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Live-streaming could be available for high school games



FILE PHOTOS

Social media sites like Facebook or Youtube channels could be used by area high schools to livestream winter sporting events.

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Basketball and hockey may be starting up in the next week or two depending on what school you are playing for, but your ability to catch a game is about as limited as your ability to go to the TD Garden or Fenway Park.

But your favorite high school action may be coming, and for free, to a handheld or other computer device near you.

Many schools, beginning this week with Quabbin Regional's regular season basketball games, will be made available to its faithful utilizing a couple of platforms.

Quabbin's games will be seen on its YouTube channel.

Several schools have YouTube channels, where it now video tapes or streams various events live for people to see. The trend became popular last year in June when many schools lost out on their traditional graduation ceremonies.

It is unclear if those types of ceremonies will be able to return this year, making the ability to stream so people who cannot be there in person can watch, even more important.

There are more ways var-



Hockey games this season may be found on Livebarn or a school's social media website.

ious schools in the region will stream games for fans. Among them, Agawam and several other schools will utilize Facebook, while others may use the National Federation of High Schools website to do games.

Hockey games at Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield will utilize a website called Livebarn. There will be no fans allowed at swim meets, though many schools are planning to stream those

events utilizing social media.

Regardless of the platform, there could be many high school games available to fans during the next months, making it possible for fans to be able to stay in on the action for this season. The trend could continue outdoors next month if football games are unable to have fans at their games, though guidance have not been is-

See **GAMES** page 8

Tournaments for baseball in question

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

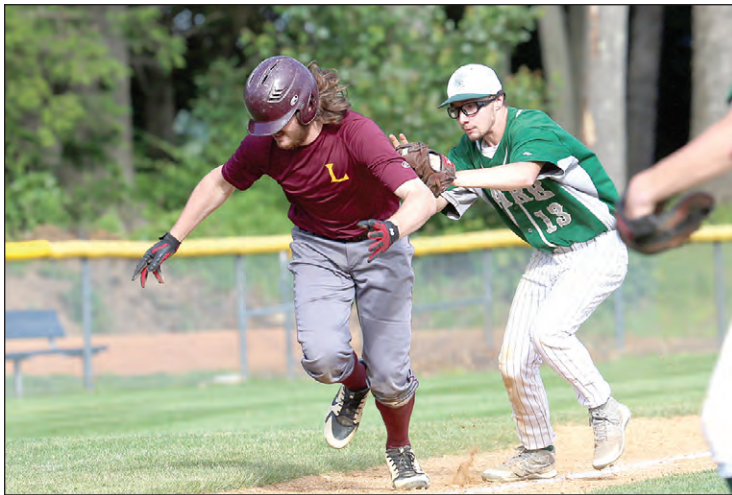
REGION – As time continues to run short on the various 2020-2021 seasons, the opportunity for area fans to see their favorite sports' sectional tournaments is running out.

When the majority of the member schools in Massachusetts voted for the change to a statewide tournament and eliminate the sectional tournaments sponsored by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, many Western Mass. schools voted against the idea.

The Western Mass. tournament, especially in certain sports like soccer and basketball, has been an important event to the region between the ability to obtain bragging rights for an area of the



The spring baseball tournament is still in question as conditions in six months are hard to predict right now.



FILE PHOTOS

UMass has been a popular site for the Western Mass. baseball tournament.

state often segregated from the rest.

The 2020-2021 school year was set to be the final year with a sectional tournament, a sobering fact for fans of soccer and basketball who were used to the spectacle of seeing the best teams compete for the soccer title at big venues like Westfield State University, and Curry Hicks Cage in the case of basketball.

In the spring, UMass is also a very popular site, often hosting the semifinals and finals of the Western Mass. softball and baseball tournaments. The sites also host state semifinal games on a rotating basis.

Recently, the baseball committee under the MIAA was

discussing the possibilities of whether or not there will be a tournament this spring. The fall and winter tournaments were already cancelled, denying fans their opportunity to have a final sectional under the MIAA banner.

At their Jan. 6 meeting, the committee established a sub-committee to begin studying potential rule changes to the game along with an end-of-season tournament proposal.

The baseball season is currently scheduled to begin in late April, falling the "bubble" or Fall 2 season. Any tournament may be held at the end of June and there

See **BASEBALL** page 8

Tri track modified series confirms six 2021 dates



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Tri Track Open Modified Series will have six dates in 2021 for its competition.

SEEKONK – The Tri Track Open Modified Series officials confirmed on Tuesday six dates for the 2021 season. The series will compete at three different tracks in two different New England states, headlined by multiple staple events and the anticipated return to Massachusetts.

Fans can expect a return to Monadnock Speedway (twice), two stops at Star Speedway, including the 10th annual SBM, and two stops at Seekonk Speedway -- including the prestigious \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday and the fan-favorite Haunted Hundred.

The season begins back on the high-banks of Monadnock, in Winchester, New Hampshire,

with a 100-lap feature on Saturday, May 1. The date will be part of Monadnock's opening Spring Dash weekend, which will also include their NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series divisions and the Granite State Pro Stock Series. Tri Track will visit Monadnock for a second time on Saturday, August 14, joined again by Monadnock's weekly divisions. The track has been a regular circuit on the Tri Track schedule -- one that places series regulars against the weekly competitors, which often come close to Victory Lane. Craig Lutz and Sam Rameau won events at Monad-

See **RACING** page 8

Sheriff's Dept. staff, inmates begin COVID inoculations

By Jonah Snowden
jsnowden@turley.com

LUDLOW – Beginning Jan. 18, a COVID-19 vaccine program was rolled out across all congregate care settings, shelters and prisons in Massachusetts.

This initiative is part of Massachusetts's COVID-19 Vaccination Program, put together by the Baker-Polito Administration and Department of Public Health, in consultation with the Massachusetts Vaccine Advisory Group. In accordance with phase one, which began in December, 2020, and runs through to February, inmates and correctional staff will have the opportunity to be vaccinated.

Staff members of the Hampden County Sheriff's Department, for example, have had some staff members receive the vaccine early and are also educating other staff and inmates on it. According to HCSO Communications Specialist Robert Rizzuto, both staff members and inmates will make their own decisions on whether or not they would like to receive the vaccine.

"So far we have folks that want it and do not want it," said Rizzuto.



COURTESY PHOTO

Close to 500 staff members and 200 inmates of the Hampden County Sheriff's Department are signed up to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

"It's been mixed for sure, but what we've seen is as time has passed and the weeks have gone on, more people have said they actually want to get it. What we're hearing is that the ones that are

skeptical right now, they have indicated that they'll be more inclined if they a staff member get it too, which we'll be happy to get at the same time."

The sheriff's department's medical

team of nurses and doctors oversee distributing the vaccine and wearing personal protective equipment. Rizzuto also said people will go into the site one by one and will be monitored for about 15 minutes after they have received the vaccine to make sure there are no side effects.

As of Jan. 15, 150 vaccinations have been distributed to staff members and close to 500 staff members are signed up to get the vaccine, according to Rizzuto. Also, close to 200 inmates have signed up to receive the vaccine, which Rizzuto said is a number that is expected to grow as time passes.

Because the risk of spread is very high due to the inmates living in very close quarters, Rizzuto said on behalf of the sheriff's department, they are happy to have received the vaccine early on.

"We're definitely appreciative that the state made the decision to put us in phase one," said Rizzuto. "We are hoping that this will be a true turning point in the pandemic."

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccination program and its timeline, visit mass.gov.

HCC Women's Leadership Series returns Jan. 27

HOLYOKE – Luz Lopez, executive director of MetroCare of Springfield, and Annamarie Golden, director of Community Relations for Baystate Health, will be the featured presenters Jan. 27 for the first Holyoke Community College Women's Leadership Luncheon Series of 2021.

The Spring Women's Leadership Luncheon Series will be held from noon to 1:15 p.m. over Zoom on the last Wednesdays of January, February, March, April and May.

Once a month, participants will join a group of women leaders to discuss current issues and ideas to help their leadership development. They will also have the opportunity to form a supportive network of women leaders to help navigate their careers.

The theme of the first session is

"Compassion Fatigue."

"I think many of us are feeling exhausted from all the work and life adjustments we've had to make in 2020," said Michele Cabral, HCC executive director of Business, Corporate and Professional Development. "There couldn't be a better time to get together with a small group of like-minded women to get feedback and professional support for the new year. Whether you're at the beginning or middle of your career, this is a great opportunity to boost your outlook and skills."

Each lunch-time event will feature two presenters leading discussions on different topics:

Jan. 27: "Compassion Fatigue" - Lopez and Golden.

Feb. 24: "Maintaining Power and

Grace with Glass Ceilings" - Lynn Turner, coach and business strategist, Clear Vision Alliance, Inc.; Moe Belliveau, executive director, Easthampton Chamber of Commerce.

March 31: "Women's Leadership from a Male Perspective" - Presenters TBD

April 28: Topic and presenters TBD

May 26: "Leading Through Change" - Margaret Tantilio, executive director, Dress for Success Western Massachusetts; Jess Roncarati-Howe, program director, Dress for Success Western Massachusetts.

Sessions are \$20 each. The full five-session series is \$50. Space is limited. Advance registration is required.

To register, please go to: hcc.edu/leadership-luncheons

BASEBALL from page 7

is more of a chance for a tournament versus other seasons because the vaccination effort for COVID-19 could be in more advance stages leading to a relaxing of social distancing and large gathering guidelines.

Schedules and tournaments have been largely influenced by an interest in keeping interactions limited. Tournaments that draw lots of fans and matchups between random schools paired together in brackets were eliminated in favor of playing in small geographic bubbles and keeping most schools playing just a small number of opponents.

Baseball could also see some rule changes, though those modifications could be limited because the sport largely allows for social distancing and very limited contact between players on the same or opposing teams.

GAMES from page 7

sued and things could drastically change in the next month depending on the government's ability to step up vaccinations under the Biden administration.

Fan rule policies were made by the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association. Despite hesitation over being indoors, up to two home fans per students will be allowed in some schools, much like the fall policy, Agawam Athletic Di-

rector and PVIAC Board member David Stratton said.

Not all schools will host fans, however, and much of it depends on how strict a particular town's school department or health department is about the issue. Fans who are allowed to attend basketball or hockey games must be masked and social distance. With basketball having much smaller rosters than soccer and field hockey, it should limit the number of people attending games.

RACING from page 7

nock in a COVID-19 shortened 2020 season.

On May 22, Tri Track will return to Star Speedway in Epping, New Hampshire, for the first of two dates on the 2021 calendar. Star has also been well-known for the annual SBM event, which returns for the 10th annual feature spectacular on Saturday, July 24. Two dates at Star in the midst of their packed schedule will give race fans a chance to watch Modifieds tear up the quarter-mile again. Matt Hirschman, a five-time and defending Tri Track champion, went to Victory Lane at Star last year.

With two dates, the return to Massachusetts and Seekonk Speedway is highly anticipated by the series, teams, drivers and fans. Seekonk will host the annual \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday event on Wednesday, June 30, and also

host the Haunted Hundred on Saturday, Oct. 23.

As part of the Haunted Hundred -- for the first time -- all three races during the day will be 100 laps. Tri Track headlines the action, crowning the 2021 champion, while the stars of the Pro All Star Series (PASS) and American Canadian Tour (ACT) will also compete in their championship events during the season-finale, which will also end the 75th year of full-time racing at Seekonk in style.

The 2021 schedule is subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Registration for the 2021 season will open on January 28, to be completed by drivers and teams through the Tri Track website. More information will be released closer to that date. For more information on the Tri Track Open Modified Series, visit TriTrackModifieds.com and follow the series on social media.

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FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Debra A Friedrich** of Longmeadow, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Debra A Friedrich** of Longmeadow, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/08/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of

the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon.
Barbara M Hyland, First
Justice of this Court.
Date: January 11, 2021
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/22/2021

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD21P0070EA
Estate of:
ARTHUR F CURTIS, JR.
Date of Death:
November 24, 2020
**INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **GARY A CURTIS** of Granby, MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

GARY A CURTIS of Granby, MA has been informally appointed as the

Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
01/22/2021

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Abraham Rivera
68 Russellville Rd

Westfield, MA 01085
2001 Saturn SC1
VIN: 1G8ZP12841Z282792
Luis Miguel Lopez-Lopez
32 Lauighton St
Lynn, MA 01902

2003 Chevrolet Silverado C1500
VIN: 1GCEC14V73Z113582
Bryan Reynolds
19 St Clair Rd
Brimfield, MA 01010

2003 Honda Odyssey
VIN: 5FNRL18923B151533
Juliet Morales
2702 Main St
Springfield, MA 01107

2003 Volkswagen Passat
VIN:WVWTH63B53P105375
Vincent Kuillan
30 Quincy St
Springfield, MA 01104

2003 Yamaha YZFR1
VIN: JYARN10E73A011985
Brian Stober
73 Greenwood Dr
Westfield, MA 01085

2004 Ford F150
VIN: 1FTPX14544NA43240
Lisa Carriveau
88 Acushnet Ave
Springfield, MA 01105

2004 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM55624A116099
Luis Hiraldo
86 Granby Rd
Chicopee, MA 01020

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer
1GNDT13S052377975
Kristina Shanise
56 Burns Ave
Springfield, MA 01119

2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee
VIN: 1J4GR48K75C723362
Larry Lewis
170 Waldrof St
Springfield, MA 01109

2005 Yamaha YZFR6
VIN: JYARJ06E15A022206
Unknown

2006 Ford Escape
VIN: 1FMYU94146KA03328
Sarahi Sanchez

76 Lillian Rd
Bristol, CT 06010
2007 Nissan Murano
VIN: JN8AZ08W67W618275
Tek Darvi
38 Riverdale St
West Springfield, MA 01089

2008 Subaru Legacy
VIN: 4S3BL626587215994
Larame Pinna
26 Maple St
Hinsdale, MA 01235

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Hertz Vehicles Llc
450 William F McClellan Hwy
Boston, MA 02128

20125 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFG3B59CH519579
Brett Oconnor
220 Springdale Rd
Westfield, MA 01085

2013 Toyota Venza
VIN: 4T3BK3BB3DU075988
Hector Ortiz
51 Orange St
Westfield, MA 01085
1/08, 1/15, 1/22/2021

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD21C0006CA
In the matter of:
**Nathanielle Patrick
Shea-Sullivan**
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by **Nathanielle Patrick Shea-Sullivan** of Chicopee, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Nathaniel Patrick Shea-Sullivan**
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an

appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/08/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon.
Barbara M Hyland, First
Justice of this Court.
Date: January 11, 2021
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/22/2021

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD20C0213CA
In the matter of:
Rebecca Anne Wright
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Rebecca Anne Wright** of Chicopee, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Amari Estelle Lopez
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/10/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon.
Barbara M Hyland, First
Justice of this Court.
Date: January 13, 2021
Rosemary Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/22/2021

Thousands using 413Cares online resource for community services

Food, housing top public searches as pandemic grips region

SPRINGFIELD – 413Cares.org, the online community resource database launched earlier this year for Western Massachusetts, has released data that shows more than 18,000 residents have accessed the database for important information for critical services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The site can be accessed at www.413cares.org.

Since 413Cares.org launched in November of 2019, there have been 18,319 searches for services on the portal. The top search categories are Housing (28%), Food (23%), and Health (14%). Other program search categories include Tran-

sit; Goods; Money; Care; Education; Work; and Legal Services.

While still in its early stages of development as a new resource, the 413Cares.org portal has taken on additional importance to help those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Needs have been on the rise for community resources as a result of the pandemic. As a single online point of contact, 413Cares efficiently connects people in the region to critical services they may need including housing, food and nutrition, healthcare, transportation, early education and more.

The top terms people have searched on 413Cares are “food”; “housing”; “food pantry”; “food delivery”; “help find housing”; and “emergency food.”

As of December 2020, 259 local organizations have claimed their listings on

413Cares, and have added 859 programs to the portal.

413Cares provides residents the ability to access critical information, resources and referrals to community-serving organizations from one online portal. The Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts (PHIWM) manages the portal, established in late 2019 as the result of a community-driven process, with initial funding by Baystate Health. The portal is housed on the Aunt Bertha national platform. PHIWM is encouraging other community organizations to claim their page on the free portal.

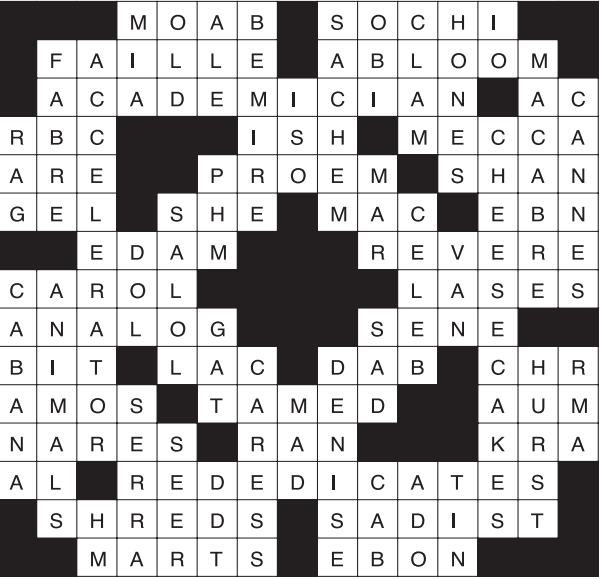
413Cares is fully HIPAA compliant, Hi-Trust certified, mobile-friendly and can be translated into over 100 languages.

Over the summer, 413Cares announced a collaboration with Mass 2-1-1,

the statewide free information and referral hotline, which provides phone support for those searching for services on the 413Cares portal. Those searching for COVID-related services will see a pop-up box appear with call information.

Other resource and referral networks in the region and across the state include Look4Help.org in Franklin County, Boston Medical Center’s MA Community Resource Directory MASSTRIVE.org and UMass Memorial Health Care & Reliant Medical Group’s CommunityHELP.net

The Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts was formed a little over 20 years ago with the goal of building measurably healthier communities using data and its convening power to create collaborative partnerships.



Chicopee Register

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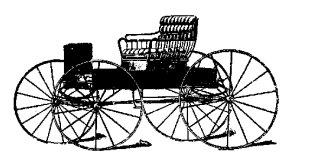
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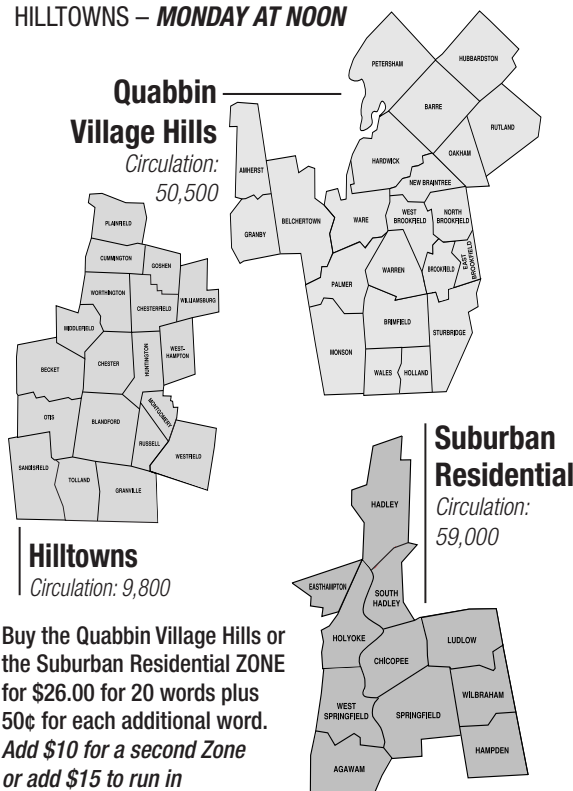
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UMass Fine Arts Center announces virtual spring season

AMHERST – This spring the UMass Fine Arts Center takes full advantage of the virtual world to engage and inspire audiences with over 40 online events featuring renowned artists like visual artist Alison Saar and the South African choral icons Ladysmith Black Mambazo.

Audiences can witness musicians from around the world perform in the newest configuration of the Silkroad Ensemble and enjoy the return of audience favorites like cellist Matt Haimovitz. “This moment to pivot enabled us to expand our reach, allowing us to bring the wonders of the arts to more communities in our richly diverse region,” said Director Jamilla Deria. In keeping with tradition, the first event of the semester is the annual Fine Arts Center Galahosted via Zoom on Feb. 6, and sponsored by Greenfield/Northampton Co-operative Bank. With the theme of “Relive-Renew-Reimagine,” the virtual version of this beloved and historically sold-out event celebrates and supports the Arts/Access outreach programs of the Fine Arts Center.

The presentation includes a trivia contest and prizes sponsored by Florence Bank and a “mini” silent auction featuring work by Tom Friedman and Laura Radwell. The evening concludes with a virtual dance party to an original set by FEVER, thanks to Finck & Perras Insurance. Registration is required and while

the event is free, guest are asked to make a donation at whichever level they are comfortable. The performing arts season kicks off with Ladysmith Black Mambazo on Feb. 17. The concert recorded in South Africa features the chorus performing the songs of unity and love that have made them globally renowned.

On April 25 as part of the UMass Bach Festival, renowned cellist Matt Haimovitz presents a virtual presentation of his “Bach Listening-Room” repertoire focused on Bach’s solo cello suites. To close out the season on April 29, members of the Grammy Award-winning Silkroad Ensemble present highlights from their more than 20-year trajectory recorded from all over the planet. For families, the Fine Arts Center welcomes the virtual tour premiere of Manual Cinema’s “Leonardo & Sam: the Terrible Monster and the Most Scaredy-Cat Kid in the Whole World, Respectively,” on April 11. Inspired by the beloved books by Mo Willems, the piece is realized through Manual Cinema’s critically acclaimed use of projection, shadow puppetry, and immersive sound to create a live cinematic experience. The Bodies at Risk series, featuring BIPOC artists in creative dialogue about the racialized body and social justice, continues from the fall. In conjunction with UMass Dance and Five College Dance Department’s virtual conference,

“Beyond the Proscenium,” hip-hop based choreographers Renie Harris and Jon Boogz talk on March 13, followed by a conversation between indigenous dance artist and company director, Emily Johnson, and choreographer and disability rights activist, Alice Sheppard, on March 18. The Reimagine Artist Residency series introduced last fall continues to feature groundbreaking artists as they redefine what it means to be socially engaged artists. Performance artist Kristina Wong returns on March 1 to present her virtual piece born from the COVID-19 pandemic, “Sweatshop Overlord.” Inspired by her experience forming “Auntie’s Sewing Squad,” the work grew into a now national grass roots effort to provide masks and more to communities in need. Multimedia artist Miwa Matreyek will be in residence focused around her climate-based work, “Infinitely Yours,” leading workshops and participating in a climate crisis panel in collaboration with the UMass School for Earth & Sustainability and the MFA for Poets and Writers. Additional programming includes Japanologist Alex Kerr discussing his book “Lost Japan”; jazz performances by the Fay Victor Chamber Trio and Zaccai Curtis Afro-Cuban Quartet; and a Valley Jazz Network performance and conversation event focused on jazz and gender featuring Grammy-award winning drummer Teri Lyne Carrington.

The University Museum of Contemporary Art has three virtual exhibitions this spring. Of special note is “Mirror Mirror: The Prints of Alison Saar” from the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and his Family Foundation.

For the exhibition “We Are For Freedoms,” the Museum commissioned a series of posters from local and regional artists, asking them to visually respond to their interpretation of freedom.

The third exhibition, “Artifacts at the End of a Decade,” the Museum’s annual Curatorial Fellowship Exhibition, was originally scheduled to debut in March 2020, and features a portfolio of work that has not been on view in its entirety since 1989. Each exhibition will be on view online February through April and features live virtual events with the artists and curators involved in each. Augusta Savage Gallery continues with its 50th anniversary theme, “Healing Bodies,” presenting exhibitions by women from Northampton’s Anchor House of Artists, New Mexico-based artist Carolyn Mae Lassiter, and a posthumous celebration of the work of Brettney Young. Each virtual exhibition launches with an opening reception on Zoom. Additionally, the Gallery hosts artist JuPong Lin’s installation, “Poetics of Repair – Being Earth, Being Water,” a participatory installation of poetry and paper cranes and canoes, “con-

cocting a medicine of de-colonial love to mend our ravaged world.” Hampden Gallery launches Feb. 1 with a group exhibition “CURRENT UNDERCURRENT” curated by Linda Griggs and M. Charlene Stevens, a visual conversation relating to current events such as COVID-19, gender, racial justice and climate change, featuring over 30 artists. Hampden’s spring schedule also features solo exhibitions by artists Bruce Ackerson and Alicia Renadette. Fine Arts Center venues including the box office, Augusta Savage Gallery, Hampden Gallery and the University Museum of Contemporary Art, remain closed to the public until further notice. Full program details are available at fineartscenter.com. Some events have a nominal access fee per household or device; many are free. For more questions, the box office can be reached by email at facbox@umass.edu and by phone at 413-545-2511 or 800-999-UMAS Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., hours subject to change. The UMass Fine Arts Center is supported by the New England Foundation for the Arts through the New England Arts Resilience Fund, part of the United States Regional Arts Resilience Fund, an initiative of the U.S. Regional Arts Organizations and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with major funding from the federal CARES Act from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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DEVEREUX is looking for individuals who are interested in becoming foster parents. We are looking for individuals who are caring and would be able to provide a stable and caring home for youth who have experienced abuse or neglect in their lives. Devereux provides free training and ongoing staff support. For more information call Maureen at (413)209-7677 mbenet9@devereux.org or Janet at (508)713-3895 jknapp@devereux.org

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REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



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Classified Advertising DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON

HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

